

# 24 Where Shall We Build?



Over the last 20 years, the population of Boomtown has been growing steadily. People have built houses and stores on most of the available land. Now, the Boomtown City Council is trying to decide where to build a new development of apartment buildings and houses. Three possible locations for the new homes are being considered.

## CHALLENGE

Where should Boomtown construct the new buildings?

### MATERIALS



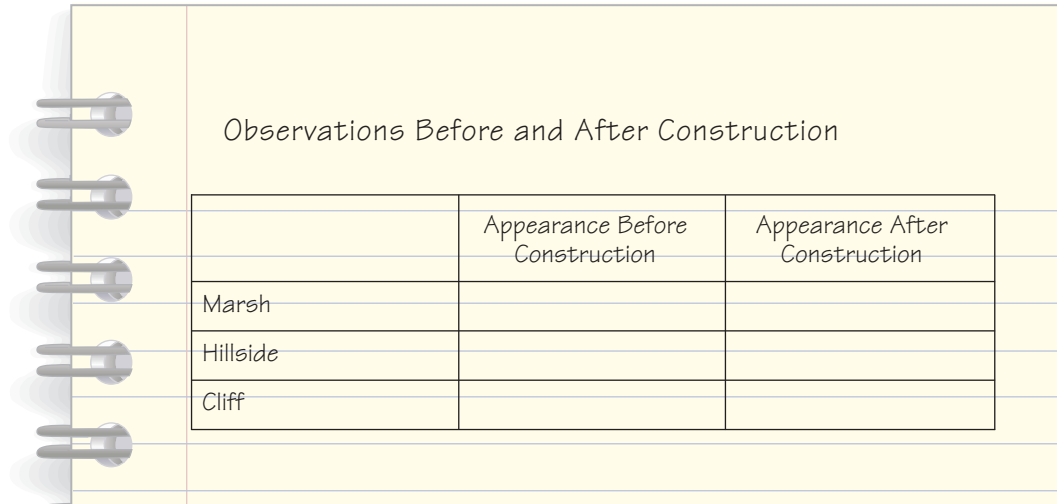
For each group of four students

- 1 Student Sheet 24.1, "Street Map of Boomtown Today"



## PROCEDURE

- Each set of photographs on the next page shows a different location, before and after the construction of buildings. In your science notebook, make a table like the one below.



*Observations Before and After Construction*

	<i>Appearance Before Construction</i>	<i>Appearance After Construction</i>
Marsh		
Hillside		
Cliff		

- Carefully examine the photographs, one location at a time. Observe changes before and after the construction in
  - the land
  - the plants and animals
  - the water
- Discuss these changes with your partner. Then record your observations in your table.
- After observing the photographs of all three locations, discuss your ideas with the other pair in your group of four. Review your table together and then add any new observations of the three building sites.
- Examine the map of Boomtown on Student Sheet 24.1, “Street Map of Boomtown Today.” Find each of the three sites being considered for the new homes:
  - Delta Marsh
  - Green Hill
  - Seaside Cliff

Activity 24 • Where Shall We Build?

Building Sites Before and After Construction



Marsh before



Marsh after



Hillside before



Hillside after



Cliff before



Cliff after

## ANALYSIS



1. Marshes, hills, and cliffs are three kinds of landforms. A **landform** is any characteristic physical shape of the earth's surface. Make a list of some other familiar landforms that you can think of that aren't mentioned in this activity.



2. Explain how each of the following places was either changed or not changed by the construction of buildings:
  - a. marsh
  - b. hillside
  - c. cliff



3. Based on what you know so far, on which site do you think Boomtown should build houses? Explain, using the observations that formed your opinion.



4. Explain how the following information about the Delta Marsh, Green Hill, and Seaside Cliffs could help the council make the decision about where to build the new housing.
  - a. weather
  - b. animals
  - c. plants
  - d. housing prices
  - e. shape of the land
5. **Reflection:** Compare Boomtown to where you live now. How is it similar or different?